St. Mary's College
2009 Drinking Water Quality Report

PWSID: 018 0013

MARYLAND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICE

Important Information about your Drinking Water:

Special points of interest:

- The water at St. Mary's College was tested for over 120 different compounds
- The St. Mary's College drinking water consistently met both State and Federal requirements
- Drinking Water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some compounds. The presence of these compounds does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Act Hotline (800-426-4791)

We're pleased to present to you the Annual Water Quality Report for 2009. This report is designed to inform you about the water quality and services we deliver to you every day. Our goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. More than 800 tests for over 120 compounds were conducted on the water at St. Mary's College. Maryland Environmental Service, an Agency of the State of Maryland, operates the St. Mary's College water treatment facility, and prepared this report. We want you to understand the efforts made to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

We're pleased to report that your drinking water consistently met both Federal and State requirements. This report shows the water quality and explains what it means.

If you have any questions about this report or have questions concerning your water utility, please contact **Mr. Jay Janney of Maryland Environmental Service at 410-729-8350 or jjann@menv.com**

We want everyone to be informed about their water.

The water for St. Mary's College comes from two wells. One well is no longer in service due to the construction of the new athletic field. The underground source of the well water is called the Aquia aquifer. After the water is pumped out of the well, we add disinfectant to protect against microbial contaminants. The Maryland Department of the Environment has performed an assessment of the source water.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain compounds in water provided by public water systems. We treat our water according to EPA's regulations. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Water Quality Data

The table below lists all the regulated drinking water contaminants that we detected during the past several years. The presence of these compounds in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in the table is from testing done January 1 – December 31, 2009. The State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year.

St. Mary's College Treated Water Quality Report 2009				
Definitions				
Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)	The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.			
Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)	The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.			
Action Level	The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.			
ppm = parts per million or milligrams per liter				
ppb = parts per billion or micrograms per liter				
pCi/l = picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)				
mrem/yr = millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)				
Contaminant	**Highest Level Allowed (EPA's MCL)**	**Highest Level Detected**	**Ideal Goal (EPA's MCLG)**	**Typical Sources of Contaminant**
Regulated at the Treatment Plant - St. Marys College, Maryland				
Wells 1 - St. Marys College, Maryland - Plant I.D. 01				
Gross Beta (2007 Testing)	4 mrem/yr	0.72 mrem/yr	0 mrem/yr	Decay of natural deposits
Gross Alpha (2007 Testing)	15 pCi/l	3 pCi/l	0 pCi/l	Erosion of natural deposits
Combine Radium (226 & 228) (2007 Testing)	5 pCi/l	0.6 pCi/l	0 pCi/l	Erosion of natural deposits
Antimony (2007 Testing)	6 ppb	4 ppb	6 ppb	Runoff form herbicide
Nickel (2007 Testing)	100 ppb	3 ppb	100 ppb	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (2007 Testing)	4000 ppb	630 ppb	4000 ppb	Erosion of natural deposits
Arsenic (2007 Testing)	10 ppb	5 ppb	10 ppb	Erosion of natural deposits
Well 3- St. Marys College, Maryland - Plant I.D. 02				
Nitrate	10 ppm	1.50 ppm	10 ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use
Well 5 - St. Marys College, Maryland - Library - Plant I.D. 03				
Gross Beta (2007 Testing)	4 mrem/yr	0.56 mrem/yr	0 mrem/yr	Decay of natural deposits
Arsenic	10 ppb	4 ppb	n/a	Erosion of natural deposits
Combine Radium (226 & 228) (2007 Testing)	5 pCi/l	0.2 pCi/l	0 pCi/l	Erosion of natural deposits
Flouride	4000 ppb	770 ppb	4000 ppb	Erosion of natural deposits
Well 6 - St. Marys City, Maryland - Plant I.D. 04				
Gross Alpha (2007 Testing)	15 pCi/l	1 pCi/l	0 pCi/l	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Beta (2007 Testing)	4 mrem/yr	0.56 mrem/yr	0 mrem/yr	Decay of natural deposits
Combine Radium (226 & 228) (2007 Testing)	5 pCi/l	0.1 pCi/l	0 pCi/l	Erosion of natural deposits
Arsenic (2007 Testing)	10 ppb	4 ppb	10 ppb	Erosion of natural deposits
Di (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (2007 Testing)	6 ppb	0.7 ppb	0 ppb	PVC Plastics
Fluoride (2007 Testing)	4000 ppb	750 ppb	4000 ppb	Erosion of natural deposits
Regulated in the Distribution				
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (2007 Testing)	80 ppb	3.3 ppb	n/a	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Regulated at the Consumer's Tap				
Copper (2008 Testing)	1300 ppb (action level)	90th percentile = 150 ppb	1300 ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing fixtures and systems

RADON:

We constantly monitor the water supply for various constituents. We have detected radon in the water supply on a sample collected in September 2007. At this time, there is no Federal Regulation for radon levels in drinking water. Compared to radon entering the home through soil, radon entering the home through tap water will in most cases be a small source of radon in indoor air. Exposure to air transmitted radon over a long period of time may cause adverse health effects. The radon result of the sample was 180 (pCi/l = picocuries per liter, a measure of radioactivity). For additional information call the EPA radon hotline at 1-800-SOS-RADON